



**PRESS RELEASE**  
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**For Immediate Release**

October 3, 2006

**PALM BAY MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

Orlando, Florida - United States Attorney Paul I. Perez today announced David W. Melton, a 39 year old resident of Palm Bay, Florida, pleaded guilty to knowingly possessing images of child pornography. The maximum penalty Melton faces is twenty years' imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, three years of supervised release, and a special assessment of \$100.

According to the plea agreement, in February of this year a person using the screen name of "darknite1010" uploaded images of child pornography to an internet service provider and the service provider reported the incident to law enforcement authorities. Subsequent investigation established that Melton used the screen name "darknite1010." A federal search warrant was issued for his home in Palm Bay. When questioned during the search, Melton admitted to possession of child pornography and agents seized several computers, several hundred diskettes, and two CDs containing video files. The computers and storage media were examined and found to contain over 10,000 images that could be

considered child pornography. The images were reviewed by the Child Victim Identification Program operated by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and 754 image files and 8 movie files were positively identified as images of known child victims from previous investigations of possession and distribution of child pornography.

The case was investigated by agents with the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Brevard County Sheriff's Office. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Bruce S. Ambrose.